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(54) Digital cable headend for cable television delivery system

(57) An apparatus for use in a cable headend, wherein a first set of signal processing equipment comprising means for receiving program signals for processing; and means for processing the program signals into a first processed signal, wherein the processing involves assigning a priority level to the program signals to be distributed to a plurality of set top terminals; a second set of signal processing equipment comprising means for receiving program signals with digitised programs; and means for processing the digitised programs into a second processed signal, wherein the processing involves assigning a priority level to the program signals to be distributed to the plurality of set top terminals; means connected to the first set of signal processing equipment and the second set of signal processing equipment for adding the first processed signal to the second processed signal to produce an added signal containing more programs than either processed signal; and means for distributing the added signal to the plurality of set top terminals.

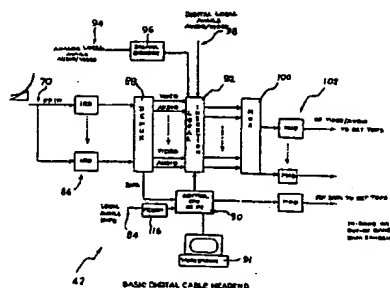


Fig. 4

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